



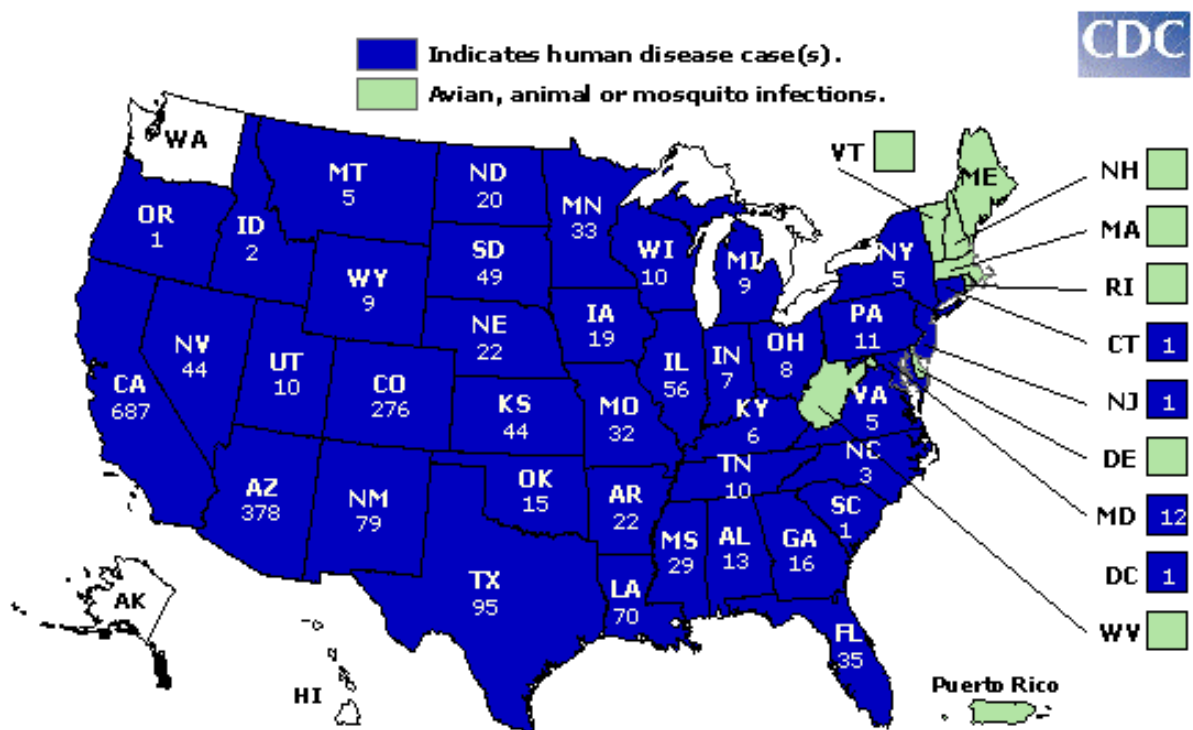
West Nile Virus Newsletter

For the second year, the Department of Health (DOH) is using this electronic newsletter as a regular communication tool for West Nile virus (WNV). It will be provided routinely throughout the summer to keep our partners informed about WNV in Washington State, as well as information from other areas of the country.

Surveillance News

Provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

2004 West Nile Virus Activity in the United States (reported to CDC as of October 19, 2004)



As of October 19, 2004, 40 states have reported a total of 2,151 human cases of West Nile virus (WNV) illness to CDC through ArboNET for 2004. Among 2,118 WNV cases with clinical and demographic data available, the median age was 52 years (range 1 month -99 years) and 1,232 (58 percent) were males. Of these 2,118 cases, 757 (36 percent) were neuroinvasive. In 2004, there have been a total of 68 published WNV-related fatalities. Of these 68 fatal cases clinical and demographic data were available on 67. The median age of these 67 decedents was 74 years (range 43-95 years).

Additional information about national WNV activity is available from CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm>. Maps detailing county-level human, mosquito, veterinary, avian and sentinel data are published each week on the collaborative USGS/CDC West Nile virus website: <http://westnilemaps.usgs.gov>.

Washington Non-human Surveillance Summary

Reported to Washington State Department of Health as of September 16, 2004

County	Horses*		Birds**		Sentinel Flocks***		Mosquito Pools****	
	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive	Tested	Positive
Adams	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Asotin	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Benton	0	0	18	0	311	0	84	0
Chelan	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Clallam	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Clark	1	0	52	0	0	0	22	0
Columbia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	1	0	25	0	0	0	26	0
Douglas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ferry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Franklin	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Garfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grant	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Grays Harbor	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Island	3	0	22	0	0	0	0	0
Jefferson	1	0	5	0	0	0	53	0
King	1	0	87	0	0	0	5	0
Kitsap	1	0	0	0	0	0	241	0
Kittitas	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Klickitat	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Lewis	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mason	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
Okanogan	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Pend Oreille	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pierce	0	0	45	0	0	0	227	0
San Juan	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Skagit	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
Skamania	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0

Snohomish	2	0	87	0	0	0	32	0
Spokane	5	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
Stevens	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Thurston	1	0	36	0	0	0	0	0
Wahkiakum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Walla Walla	4	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Whatcom	2	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Whitman	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Yakima	1	0	3	0	81	0	139	0
Totals	31	0	517	0	392	0	829	0

*An additional 13 equine tested negative, but were not included in the table because county/state information was not available. WADDL Report Dated: October 5, 2004

**A total 534 birds have been submitted for testing, of which 17 were unsuitable and not tested for West Nile virus. An additional 10 bird specimens are pending.

***Benton County MCD Report Dated: September 30, 2004

****USACHPPM-West Report Dated: October 15, 2004, WADDL Report Dated: September 29, 2004, Clark County MCD Reported: September 8, 2004, and Benton County MCD Reported Date: September 29, 2004.

Clark County Health Department: Heightened Activity in 2004

By Lou Dooley, Clark County Environmental Health Director

Several enhancements for the mosquito control program in Clark County were achieved in 2004. Activity improvements included increased testing of birds and mosquitoes; greatly increased treatment of catch basins; and more broad public information releases.

There was a tenfold increase in dead bird analysis (birds tested) and reporting for Clark County in 2004. Over 50 birds were sent to the state laboratory for disease analysis; all samples were negative for West Nile virus. The “in-house” surveillance effort also included mosquito pool testing.

Before 2004, the single-most focus of our control efforts was the floodwater mosquito, with “tree-hole mosquitoes” and other species also being found in traps later in the year. Treatment of catch basins was previously done on a very limited basis (approximately 400 per year). Utilizing equipment specifically designed to deliver measured amounts of larvicide into catch basins and storm drains, the field staff increased treatments to over 13,000 catch basins. This approach fit very nicely into the schedule of the control effort; the first half of the season being targeted to nuisance floodwater mosquitoes (*Aedes sp*), and the latter part of the year being dedicated to *Culex sp*.

Following a Communication Plan established in 2002, early press releases were sent out prior to the 2004 season, mid-season releases discussed then-current findings and conditions, and a season final release is in process for the end of October. Additionally, as West Nile virus progressed throughout the Northwest, particularly into Oregon, releases were made to assure the public of our continued efforts and encourage them to protect themselves. News releases to be issued in each scenario of West Nile virus positive findings are ready for release.

Crow Populations Suffer from West Nile Virus

National Public Radio, All Things Considered

In the five years since it was discovered in the United States, West Nile Virus has had a devastating effect on some bird populations. Scores of crows have disappeared from all over the country. Reporter Nell Boyce talks with Kevin McGowan, a crow expert at Cornell University, about the effects the virus has had on the social fabric of crow families.

Listen to this radio piece at www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=3937510

Community Comments

Let us hear your comments on this newsletter, your needs, or things you would like to see, by sending them to Maryanne Guichard, 360.236.3391 or maryanne.guichard@doh.wa.gov

WNV Web Resources

Washington State Department of Health www.doh.wa.gov/wnv

Center for Disease Control and Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/>

Washington State University Cooperative Extension <http://wnv.wsu.edu/>

Cornell University, Center for Environment <http://www.cfe.cornell.edu/erap/WNV>

Washington State Department of Agriculture

<http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/Diseases/WestNileVirus/default.htm>

Article Submission

We are interested in receiving articles for future publications of the WNV newsletter. Please submit articles to Ben Hamilton, benjamin.hamilton@doh.wa.gov.

DOH Contact List for West Nile Virus

General Public Toll-Free Hotline 1.866.78VIRUS

Publications: Brochures/Response Plan/Fact Sheets

Laura Harper, 360.236.3380, or laura.harper@doh.wa.gov.

Surveillance: Mosquito

Jo Marie Brauner, 360.236.3064, or jomarie.brauner@doh.wa.gov.

Surveillance: Dead bird surveillance, horses, case reporting, laboratory assistance, and general WNV response

Tom Gibbs, 360.236.3060, or tom.gibbs@doh.wa.gov.

Aquatic Mosquito Control National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit: Training, technical assistance

Ben Hamilton, 360.236.3364, or benjamin.hamilton@doh.wa.gov.

WNV in Humans: Clinical information, case reporting, and laboratory testing

Call your local health jurisdiction or DOH Communicable Disease Epidemiology,
206.361.2914 or 877.539.4344.

Assistance with news releases and media response

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